



8/21/18

T186150

518-117049

Brian Lash

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AUG 28 2018

BY
LDEQ/SPOC

"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY"

Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837 OR 52-WATER
www.swbno.org

August 17, 2018

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312
ATTENTION: Office of Environmental Compliance – SPOC
UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Re: Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO)
LSP Incident No. 18-03596
National Response Center Incident No. 1220212

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find information requested in Title 33, Part I, Subpart 2, Sec. 3925 following the notification to LSP and National Response Center.

If you have any questions or need additional information concerning this report, please contact me at 504-942-3856 or awilson2@swbno.org.

Sincerely,

Ann Wilson
Chief, Environmental Affairs
Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans

Enclosure

Cc: Ramsey Green, City of New Orleans Deputy Chief Administrative Infrastructure & Operations
Martha Griset, City of New Orleans Interim Director of Property Management
Mary Kincaid, City of New Orleans Chief Resiliency Officer

**SUMMARY OF DIESEL SPILL
FLORIDA AVENUE CANAL
AUGUST 1-9, 2018
FINAL REPORT**

B1. Ann Wilson, Chief, Environmental Affairs, Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans, 2900 Peoples Avenue, Room 215, New Orleans, LA 70122, Email: awilson2@swbno.org. A.I. Number: NA

2. LA State Police, August 1, 2018, 13:00 HRS. Person making notification: Scott Belsom, Boh Bros. 504-232-4020. Case Number 18-03596. National Response Center notified on August 1, 2018. Case Number: 1220212. LA Department of Environmental Quality and US Coast Guard were notified by the LSP. On August 1, 2018, Brain Lash with LDEQ arrived at Florida Avenue Canal at Alvar Street box culvert. At this time, the source of the diesel had not been determined.

Original Site: Florida Avenue Canal at Alvar Street box culvert, New Orleans, LA, Latitude: 29.982834, Longitude: -90.031287.

Site of Release: Naval Support Activity Facility, 603 Poland Avenue, New Orleans, LA, Latitude: 29.9598958, Longitude: -90.330127.

3. The discharge of diesel in the Florida Canal was discovered on August 1, 2018, at 13:00 HRS and the cleanup was completed on August 9, 2018 at 13:00 HRS.
4. At approximately 13:00 on Wednesday, August 1, 2018, the Boh Bros. construction crew on the Florida Avenue Canal reported a diesel spill in the canal from the Alvar Street box culvert. Corwin Washington and Eddy Schneider of SWBNO Environmental Affairs Department arrived to the site around 14:00 to begin the investigation. They met with Boh Bros., NOFD HazMat, DEQ Emergency Response and US Coast Guard. The diesel was contained by a sand dam the contractors had in place for construction. After confirming that the diesel did not originate from a spill on the construction site, USCG investigated the Alvar box culvert watershed for any above-ground signs of a diesel spill. Corwin Washington and Eddy Schneider investigated the drainage system to track down the source, they were assisted by Scott Finney and Walter Berard of SWBNO EAD and Walter Diamond of OMI. The crew identified the source of the leak to be from two above-ground storage tanks inside the abandoned Naval Support Activity facility on Poland Avenue. The drain plugs on the diesel storage tanks were removed, which caused the leak and the secondary containment for the tank was compromised and its drain valve left open. Being that the abandoned Naval Support Activity facility is property of the City of New Orleans, the City was contacted and they contacted their environmental response contractor, Leaaf Environmental. Since OMI was already on the scene, Leaaf agreed to

subcontract OMI for this job. Drainage Pump Station 19 was instructed to not pump until further notice or in the case of an emergency.

On Thursday, August 2, 2018, OMI dispatched absorbent and hard boom down the Florida canal in several places. Cleaning crews utilized absorbent, drum skimmers and a vac truck to capture product out of the canal. The water level in the canal rose and the sand dam collapsed that Boh Bros. had in place. The product was captured by booms downstream. That afternoon, at the source site, the diesel left in the secondary containment of the unplugged storage tanks was removed by a vac truck. No product had been released to the forebay of DPS19.

On Friday, August 3, 2018, the residual product at the bottom of the diesel tanks was removed. The secondary containment was completely cleaned with a power washer. Continued cleaning efforts took place in the canal. No product had been released to the forebay of DPS 19.

On Sunday, August 5, 2018, at 07:45 HRS, Scott Finney of SWBNO EAD received a call from Drainage Operations that there was product in the forebay of DPS19. Eddy Schneider dispatched to the site and confirmed that there was product in the forebay and called OMI out for cleanup. OMI cleaned the product out of the canal with absorbent material and a vac truck. The crew utilized the trash rakes and screens at the station to remove large pieces of wood and other debris to facilitate the cleanup process. Removing product from behind the trash screens posed the largest challenge. Three ducklings and two turtles were removed from the forebay and were picked up by LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at the end of the day.

On Monday, August 6, 2018, Eddy Schneider and Mary-Alice Sandberg of SWBNO EAD flushed the drainage line from inside the abandoned Naval Support Activity facility with three fire hydrants from 09:15 – 16:00 HRS. A thunderstorm moved through the area around 15:30 HRS, which facilitated the flushing process. They poured green dye in the drain manhole closest to the diesel tanks and noted that it made it through the drainage system to the Florida Canal. In the meantime, OMI finished up the cleaning efforts in the Florida Canal and DPS 19 forebay. Booms were left in place to contain any diesel which entered the Florida Canal at the Alvar Street box culvert.

On Thursday, August 9, 2018, booms were removed and the cleanup was determined to be complete.

- 4a. No current permitted limit for the pollutant released.
- 4b. Storm drainage system from Poland Avenue, to St. Claude Street, to Alvar Street, to the Florida Canal. Not a permitted outfall.
- 4c. No permitted limit.

5. Diesel, CAS Number 68334-30-5, Hazard Class: 3; UN No. 1993. Estimated quantity spilled: approximately 1700 gallons of diesel and water recovered from the Florida Canal. Estimated quantity recovered: 18 cubic yards absorbent material and debris.
6. The diesel entered the storm drainage system at Poland Avenue to St. Claude Street to Alvar Street to Florida Avenue Canal.
7. OMI Environmental Solutions began cleanup of diesel at Alvar box culvert to the Florida Canal on August 1, 2018. The cleanup process was completed on August 6, 2018 and the last boom was removed on August 9, 2018. As of August 9, 2018, 18 cubic yards of diesel contaminated absorbent material and debris has been removed from the Florida Canal. OMI estimated 1700 gallons of diesel/water mixture was recovered.

On August 1, 2018 at approximately 18:00 HRS, SWBNO Environmental Affairs and OMI personnel determined the origin of the diesel was above ground storage tanks at the Naval Support Activity at 603 Poland Avenue. The brass plugs had been removed from two 2000 gallon Diesel storage tanks. OMI and Leaf Environmental began the cleanup of the source on August 2, 2018.

8. All above ground storage tanks will be inspected to ensure no product was left in the tanks following the Navy's departure from the facility. If product is found in the tanks, it will be removed.
9. The Naval Support Activity facility is a closed facility. The City of New Orleans is the owner of the property and working to secure a lease of the property to a private party. No permits are required for the facility at this time.
10. Reporting party is City of New Orleans, 1300 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA. The SWBNO Environmental Affairs Department assisted the City of New Orleans with the investigation and preparing a summary of the incident. The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Headquarters' address is 625 St. Joseph Street, New Orleans, LA 70118.
11. Discharge of diesel entered storm drainage and sewer systems. Diesel has been found on the ground next to the containment area. These areas have been cleaned.
12. LA State Police and the National Response Center. See information in No. 2.
13. City of New Orleans, 1300 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA 70112.
14. The incident could have been preventable if the diesel fuel had been removed from the above ground storage tanks.
15. No injuries.
16. As of August 9, 2018, 1700 gallons of diesel/water mixture and 18 cubic yards of diesel contaminated absorbent and debris was removed from the Florida Canal.

E.A.D. INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

ADDENDUM

- **DATE:** 8/1/2018 – 8/9/2018
- **LSP Incident No.** 18-03596
- **National Response Center Incident No.** 1220212
- **SITE:** Source of spill was at the abandoned Naval Activity Support facility, 603 Poland Avenue, New Orleans, LA. Diesel flowed through the drainage system North along Poland Avenue, West along St. Claude and North along Alvar Street where it was discovered in the Florida Canal and made its furthest reach to the DPS19 forebay.
- **COMPLAINT:** Diesel in Florida Canal
- **COMPLAINANT:** Boh Bros., Scott Belsom, 504-232-4020
- **INVESTIGATORS:** Scott Finney, Walter Berard, Eddy Schneider, Corwin Washington and Mary-Alice Sandberg

Complaint # 721

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT:

SUMMARY

Trespassers scrapping material from the abandoned Naval Base on Poland Avenue removed brass plugs from the bottom of two roughly 2000 gallon storage tanks which emptied their contents into non-watertight secondary containment, then into the drainage system and eventually to the Florida Canal and Drainage Pump Station 19. None of the product was discharged past the drainage pump station.

Cleanup efforts were conducted beginning August 1, 2018 to August 9, 2018. The following organizations were involved: Boh Bros., Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO), LA Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), City of New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD), US Coast Guard (USCG), Leaaf Environmental, OMI Environmental Services, various departments of City of New Orleans and LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF).

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1, 2018

At approximately 13:00 on Wednesday, August 1, 2018, the Boh Bros. construction crew on the Florida Avenue Canal reported a diesel spill in the canal from the Alvar Street box culvert. Corwin Washington and Eddy Schneider of SWBNO Environmental Affairs Department arrived to the site around 14:00 to begin the investigation. They met with Boh Bros., NOFD HazMat, DEQ Emergency Response and US Coast Guard. The diesel was contained by a sand dam the contractors had in place for construction. After confirming that the diesel did not originate from a spill on the construction site, USCG investigated the Alvar box culvert watershed for any above-ground signs of a diesel spill. Corwin Washington and Eddy Schneider investigated the drainage system to track down the source, they were assisted by Scott Finney and Walter Berard of SWBNO EAD and Walter Diamond of OMI. The crew identified the source of the leak to be from two above-ground storage tanks inside the abandoned Naval Support Activity facility on Poland Avenue. The drain plugs on the diesel storage tanks were removed, which caused the leak and the secondary containment for the

tank was compromised and its drain valve left open. Being that the abandoned Naval Support Activity facility is property of the City of New Orleans, the City was contacted and they contacted their environmental response contractor, Leaaf Environmental. Since OMI was already on the scene, Leaaf agreed to subcontract OMI for this job. Drainage Pump Station 19 was instructed to not pump until further notice or in the case of an emergency.

THURSDAY AUGUST 2, 2018

On Thursday, August 2, 2018, OMI dispatched absorbent and hard boom down the Florida canal in several places. Cleaning crews utilized absorbent, drum skimmers and a vac truck to capture product out of the canal. The water level in the canal rose and the sand dam collapsed that Boh Bros. had in place. The product was captured by booms downstream. That afternoon, at the source site, the diesel left in the secondary containment of the unplugged storage tanks was removed by a vac truck. No product had been released to the forebay of DPS 19.

FRIDAY AUGUST 3, 2018

On Friday, August 3, 2018, the residual product at the bottom of the diesel tanks was removed. The secondary containment was completely cleaned with a power washer. Continued cleaning efforts took place in the canal. No product had been released to the forebay of DPS 19.

SUNDAY AUGUST 5, 2018

On Sunday, August 5, 2018, at 07:45 HRS, Scott Finney of SWBNO EAD received a call from Drainage Operations that there was product in the forebay of DPS 19. Eddy Schneider dispatched to the site and confirmed that there was product in the forebay and called OMI out for cleanup. OMI cleaned the product out of the canal with absorbent material and a vac truck. The crew utilized the trash rakes and screens at the station to remove large pieces of wood and other debris to facilitate the cleanup process. Removing product from behind the trash screens posed the largest challenge. Three ducklings and two turtles were removed from the forebay and were picked up by LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at the end of the day.

MONDAY AUGUST 6, 2018

On Monday, August 6, 2018, Eddy Schneider and Mary-Alice Sandberg of SWBNO EAD flushed the drainage line from inside the abandoned Naval Support Activity facility with three fire hydrants from 09:15 – 16:00 HRS. A thunderstorm moved through the area around 15:30 HRS, which facilitated the flushing process. They poured green dye in the drain manhole closest to the diesel tanks and noted that it made it through the drainage system to the Florida Canal. In the meantime, OMI finished up the cleaning efforts in the Florida Canal and DPS 19 forebay. Booms were left in place to contain any diesel which entered the Florida Canal at the Alvar Street box culvert.

THURSDAY AUGUST 9, 2018

Booms were removed at 1300 hrs on Thursday, August 9, 2018. Cleanup was determined to be complete.



Report by: Eddy Schneider

Diesel Spill Path in Drainage

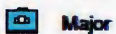


August 9, 2018

Drainage Pump ■ Water Feature



Minor



Major

Drainage Canal

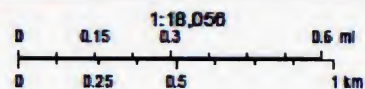


Minor



Major

..... Path of Diesel in Drainage



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBasis, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Sanitation and Water Board of New Orleans

PHOTOS - WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1ST 2018

Outfall of Alvar box culvert into Florida Canal where the diesel made its first appearance



Diesel pooling at Boh Bros. sand dam



Diesel in Florida Canal



Florida Canal downstream from affected area. No signs of diesel on canal.



08/01/2018 14:05:24
New Orleans

DPS 19 forebay. No signs of diesel



08/01/2018 14:10:49
New Orleans

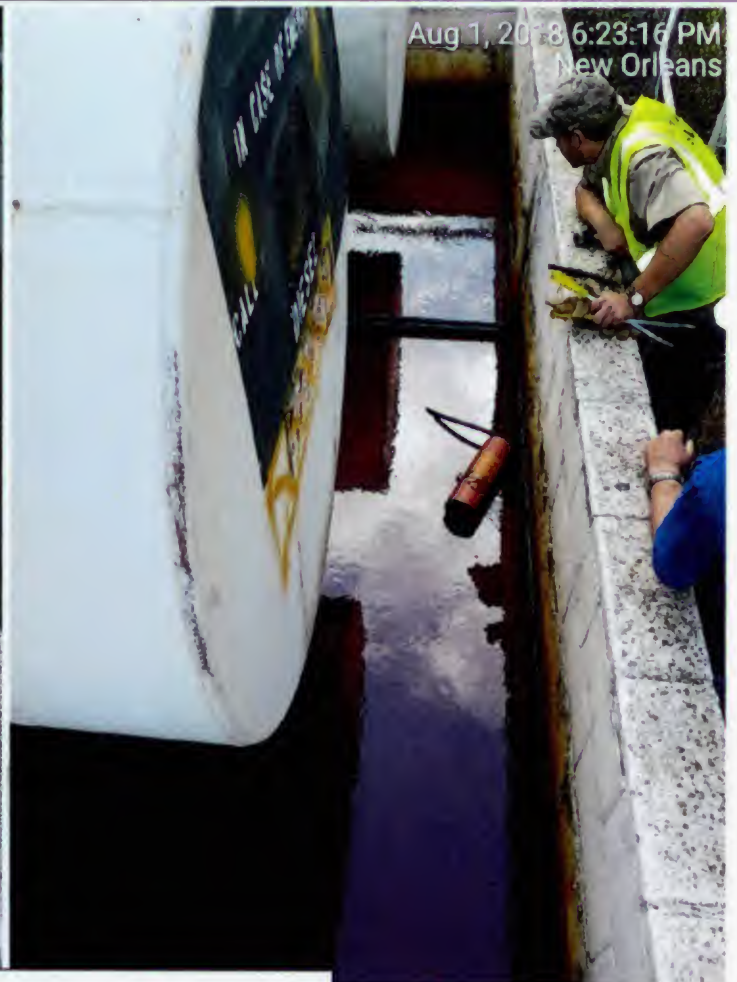
Foam collecting in DPS 19 forebay, oil absorbent pad suggested there was no petroleum product present



08/01/2018 14:10:47
New Orleans

Aug 1, 2018 2:23:21 PM
New Orleans





Diesel in secondary containment at source site



PHOTOS - THURSDAY AUGUST 2ND 2018

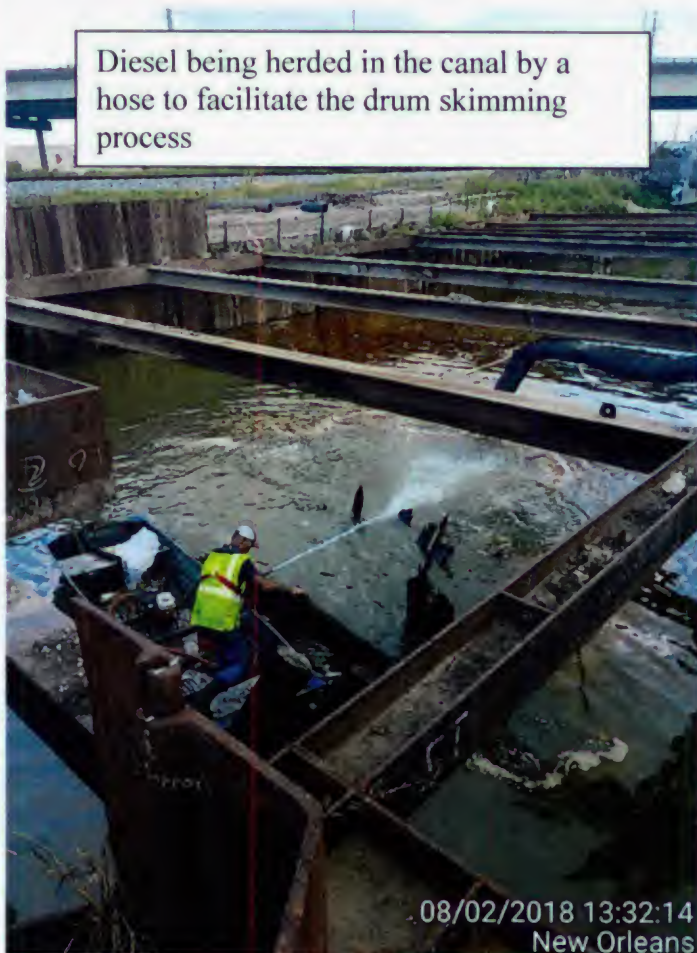
Drum skimmers and vac truck cleaning product from canal



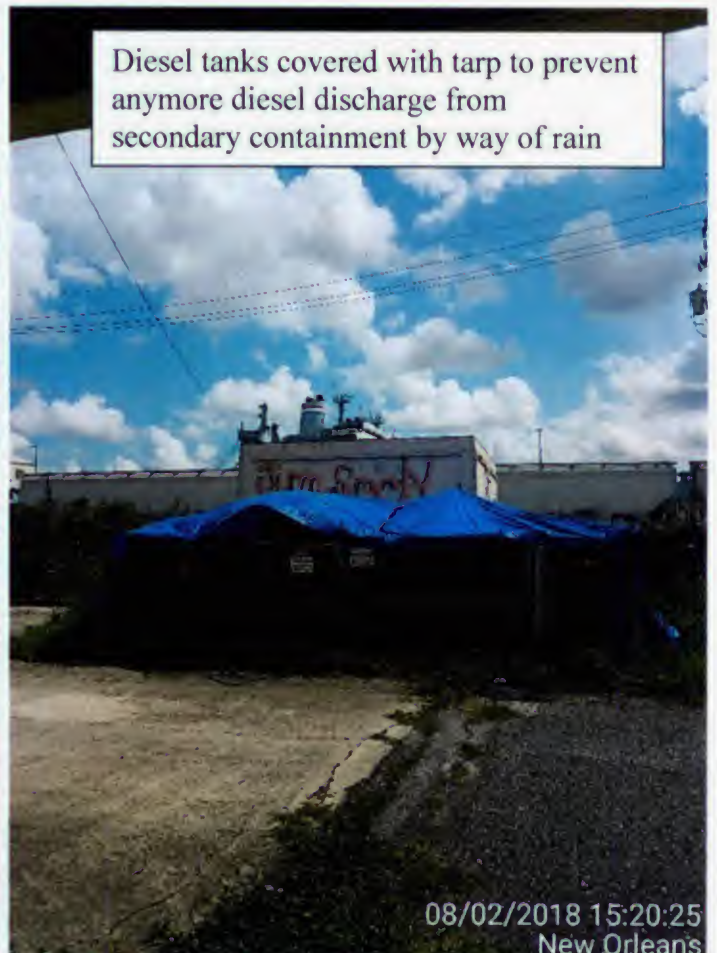
Florida Canal downstream of affected area



Diesel being herded in the canal by a hose to facilitate the drum skimming process



Diesel tanks covered with tarp to prevent anymore diesel discharge from secondary containment by way of rain



Absorbent material in trench drain adjacent to diesel tanks



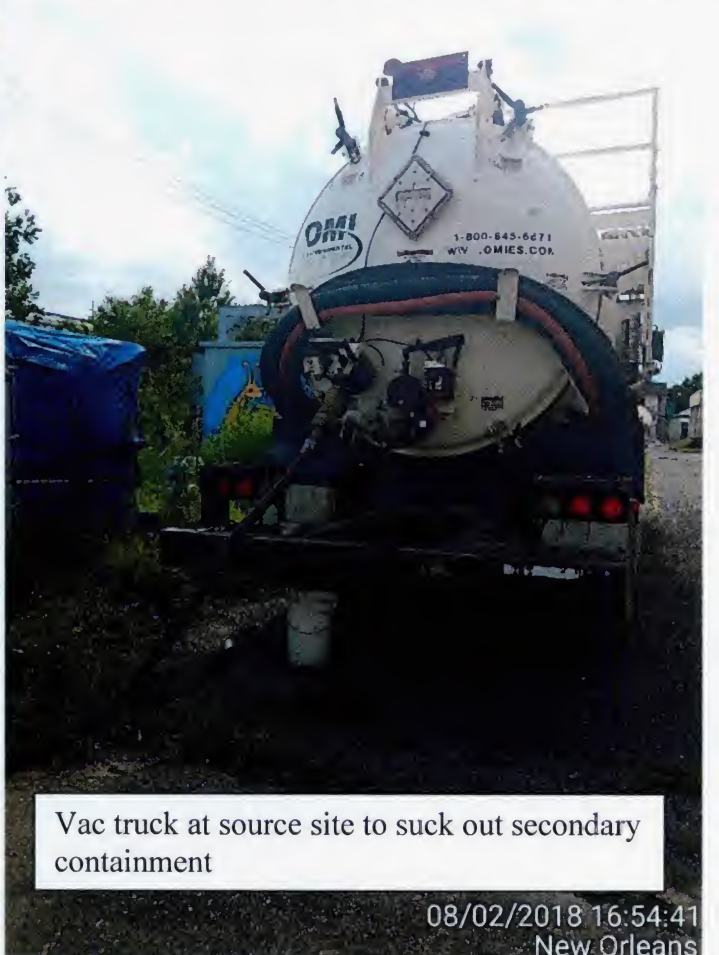
Soil adjacent to diesel tanks contaminated

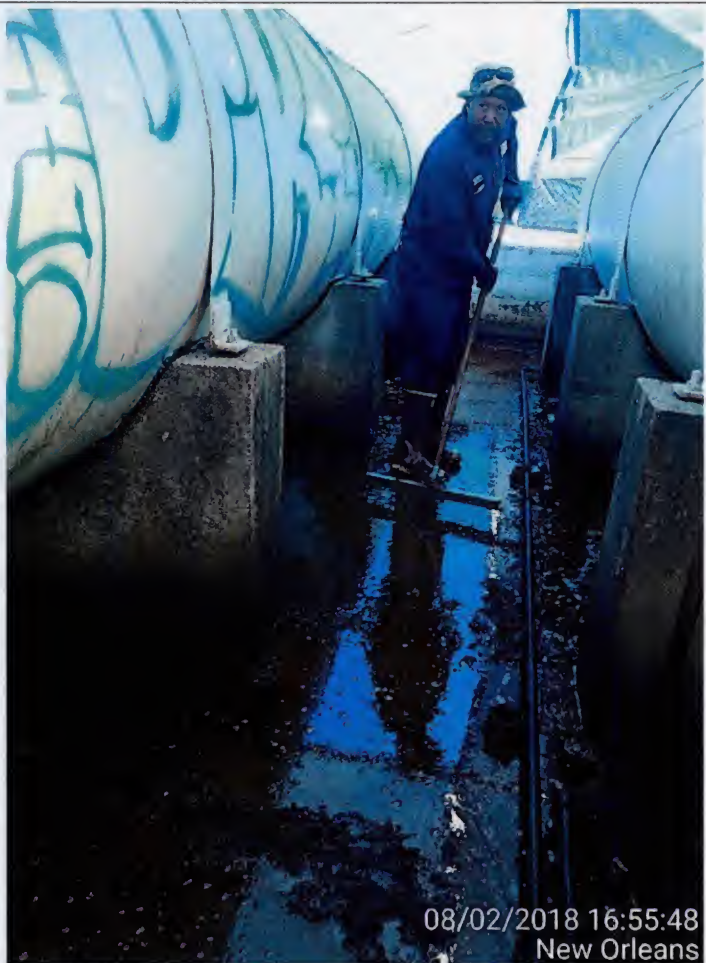


Trench drain adjacent to diesel tanks cleaned



Vac truck at source site to suck out secondary containment





OMI cleaning out diesel in secondary
containment at the source site

PHOTOS - FRIDAY AUGUST 3RD 2018

Secondary containment cleaned and residual product in tanks sucked out



Soft and hard boom in Florida Canal



Boom capturing inflow from Alvar box culvert in Florida Canal

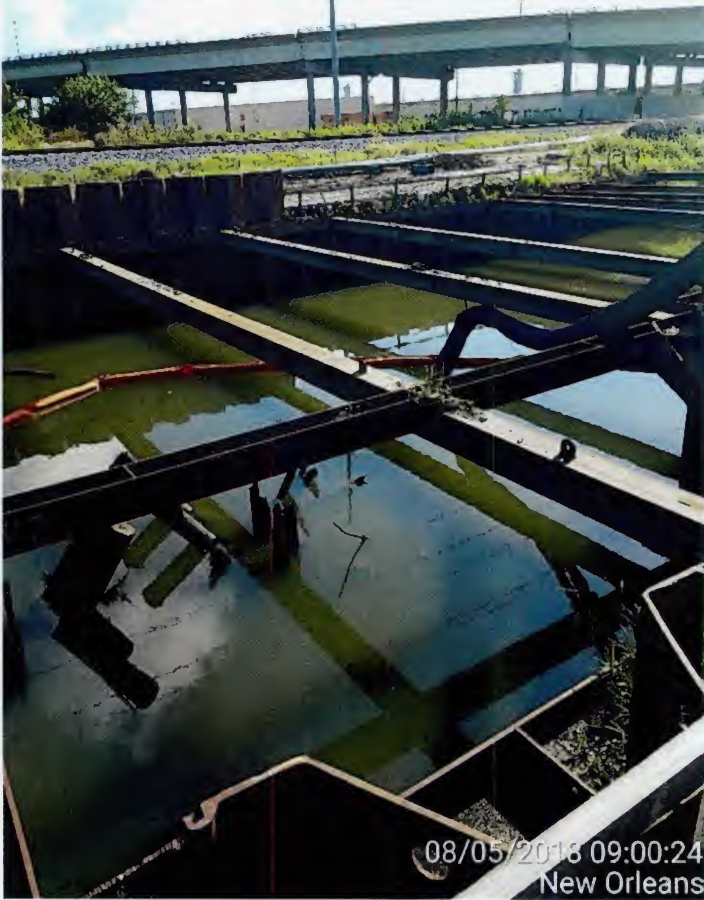


Florida Canal downstream from affected area

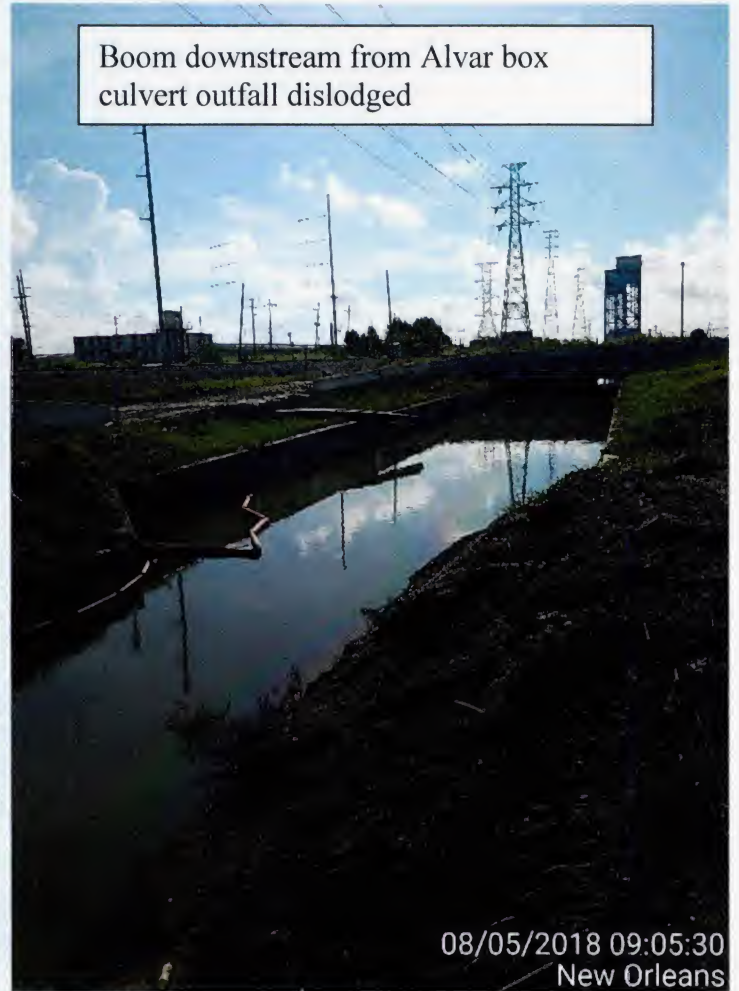


PHOTOS - SUNDAY AUGUST 5TH 2018

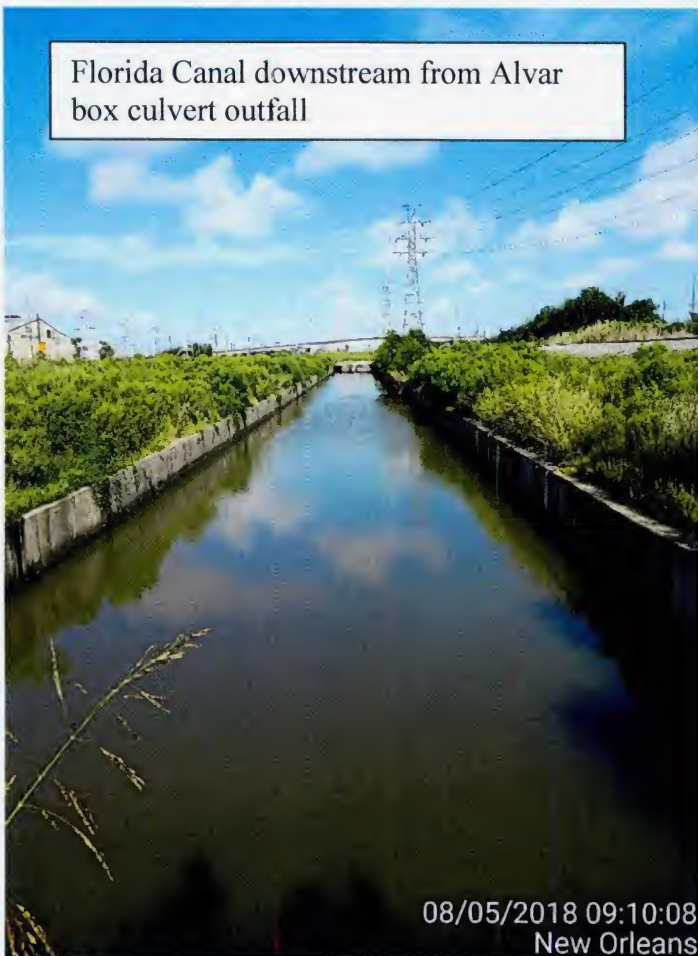
Boom at Alvar box culvert outfall intact



Boom downstream from Alvar box culvert outfall dislodged



Florida Canal downstream from Alvar box culvert outfall



Product and debris pooling in corner of DPS 19 forebay. Soiled absorbent pad circled

